



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310)659-0205 FAX(310)657-4340
Dick Rosengarten, Publisher E-Mail calpeek@aol.com

VOL. XX
No. 37

OCT. 12, 1998

CAMPAIGN '98: WITH 3 WEEKS TO GO, HERE ARE KEY TRENDS IMPACTING THE NOV. 3 ELECTION.

Editor's note: Lots of news to report, including new polling data in the governor's race; a voter turnout projection; and some contribution info. Here's our update and analysis...

- **Turnout Projections** - Turnout is the key to many things, including President Bill Clinton's survival. If the Demos don't turn out, Clinton is in *deep trouble*. Typically, Demo turnout in an off-year election is lower than GOP turnout. Over the years Calif. pollster Mervin Field has been very accurate in projecting turnout. On Nov. 3rd, Field is projecting a turnout of **9.1 million voters**. In the 1994 gubernatorial election, the turnout was 8.9 million. The average turnout over the last 3 off-year elections has been **59.5%** and this 9.1 million figure is on target with that average...

...Of the 9.1 million voters who will turn out, Field predicts **45%** will be likely Demo voters, **40%** will be likely GOP voters, and the remaining **15%** likely independents and third party voters...

- **Clinton's Numbers** - In the Field Poll (Sept. 27 to Oct. 3), Clinton's approval numbers are **57%** vs. **38%** disapprove. Down somewhat from August, when the numbers were **60%** vs. **35%**. And in this survey, **57%** said the U.S. House should censure Clinton, but he should be allowed to finish his term. The whole Clinton sex scandal has been highly politicized, with GOPers favoring impeachment by a **66%** vs. **31%** margin, while Demos are opposed to impeachment by a **84%** vs. **13%** margin. This controversy has energized the base of both political parties, according to most Calpeek sources...

- **Get OutThe Vote** - The GOP's favorite GOTV

weapon is the *absentee ballot*. Two VBM (vote by mail) applications have been mailed to GOP voters in 25 targeted Assembly Districts in Calif. The VBM was paid for by the Assembly Republicans and the CRP. The Demo approach to GOTV is slightly different. The Demo *Coordinated Campaign* targeted drop off Demos (Demos who voted in '96, but not in '94) with VBM applications. VBM programs for individual Demo House & legislative candidates are left to each campaign. The other big Demo GOTV weapon is new voter registration in targeted areas. We won't know the final figures for a few days, but there are indications that the Demos did a good job with registration...

- **Davis Vs. Lungren** - The new Field Poll gives Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) a **6 pt. lead** over AG Dan Lungren(R). Field shows Davis **48%** vs. Lungren **42%**, with **5%** other candidates and **5%** undecided. An independent tracking poll taken for an initiative campaign tested the governor & U.S. Senate races. This survey showed Davis with a **10-12 pt. lead**. In fundraising, Davis has a 2-to-1 edge in cash on hand: **\$8.2 million** for Davis vs. **\$4.8 million** for Lungren. This does not count independent expenditure campaigns. FYI: remember that CCPOA (correctional officers) will spend **\$2 million** on behalf of Davis. A **big hunk** of this money will go into Central Valley tv. And sources say that between CCPOA and the YES on 5 campaign, there's very little tv time left in the Central Valley...

- **GOP Bright Spots** - Yes, there are some. CA Treasurer Matt Fong(R) is keeping his race with U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D) very close. A number of insiders think he has a *good shot* at beating Boxer. A recent independent tracking poll shows Boxer with a **1-2 pt. lead**, but that's within margin of error. And Fong's fundraising has picked up (FYI: former Pres.

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK (ISSN 0195-6175) IS AN INDEPENDENT, NONPARTISAN NEWS ANALYSIS BULLETIN OF CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION. TELEPHONE: (310)659-0205. ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213. \$90/YEAR. PUBLISHED WEEKLY, 44 WEEKS PER YEAR. COPYRIGHTED BY CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC. THIS TRADEMARK REGISTERED WITH THE CALIF. SECRETARY OF STATE. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART REQUIRES EXPRESS PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 1ST CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES.

George Bush was a keynoter at a recent Fong event). Other bright spots for the GOP: SOS Bill Jones and Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush. We'll focus on more down-ballot races next week...

● **Major Blunders** - Usually the candidate who makes the fewest major mistakes wins. In the governor's race, we haven't seen any major gaffs by Davis. As for Lungren, we've seen 3 major blunders: 1) The tv ad to counter Davis' hit on abortion (Lungren's ad was ineffective); 2) The tv ad on character made Lungren look arrogant, according to one source, who also said the ad itself was *irrelevant at best, exploitative at worst*. And 3) Lungren's Latrell Sprewell remark really offended the street cops and firefighters...

● **Grievance Voters** - These are blocs of voters who have "bone to pick" with a politician. In the case of Lungren/Wilson, the key groups of grievance voters are: 1) public employees, who had their pay raise vetoed by Wilson; 2) all Calif. union members who remember 226; 3) teachers - who not only remember 226, but Lungren's *pro-voucher* position; 4) pro-choice women; 5) the pro-environment crowd, who distrust Lungren on a range of issues; 6) Latino voters, who still remember Prop. 187; and a long list of others. As for Davis, he's *gray* - and hasn't yet POed any voting bloc that we're aware of. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE CONTESTS

Editor's note: This week **Calpeek** focuses on some key State Senate races and updates one Assembly contest...

☒ **2nd SD** - A very close battle for Demo State Sen. Mike Thompson's OPEN seat between former Humboldt Co. Sup. Wes Chesbro(D) and John Jordan(R), 26-year-old CEO of Kaffe Mocha with very *deep pockets*. Both are on radio & tv and in the mail and both will be well funded. Jordan has been endorsed by PORAC, while Chesbro gets backing from CCPOA. This SD has a 50.84%(D) vs. 30.83%(R) registration, but complicating this race for Chesbro is P&F party candidate Brian Garay, who got 5,794 primary votes. Polling is tight: both side claim to be slightly ahead. In terms of issues, Chesbro is hitting Jordan over assault weapons, while Jordan is hitting Chesbro on residency with a Gilbert & Sullivan-styled radio ad called *HMS Hollywood*. Chesbro's campaign says the ad has actu-

ally boosted Chesbro's name ID. A *toss up* for now, but the district *leans Demo*...

☒ **32nd SD Update** - Demo Assemblyman Joe Baca probably is still the favorite in this OPEN seat race with Eunice Ulloa, the GOP mayor of Chino, but he doesn't know when to keep his big mouth shut. Baca recently demonstrated that he has *room temperature IQ* when he called State Sen. Jim Brulte(R-Rancho Cucamonga) a "*pimp*." Brulte not only recruited Ulloa, but is a key financial backer (along with the GOP Senate Leadership). Brulte's response in the Sept. 18th edition of the *Riverside Press Enterprise*: "John Burton will encourage people to raise and spend money for Joe Baca, but that doesn't make John Burton a pimp." The 32nd SD has a 51.6%(D) vs. 33.1% (R) voter registration, meaning this SD *leans Demo*. FYI: The NRA has made Baca's election to the 32nd SD a top priority...

☒ **6th SD** - Another very close OPEN seat battle is in the Sacto area between Assemblywoman Deborah Ortiz(D) and Chris Quackenbush(R), wife of GOP Insurance Commissioner Chuck Q. Mrs. Q was in a bitter GOP primary with Mike McCollum and it's not clear whether the wounds are totally healed. And there is Libertarian candidate Gerald Klaas, who got 4,227 votes in the primary. Klaas could hurt Quackenbush. The 6th SD is nested inside the 5th(Alby) and 9th(Ortiz) ADs. There are 220,097 voters in the 5th vs. 174,450 in the 9th. The 5th is GOP turf and that's where Mrs. Q has an edge, but sources say Ortiz is really working the 5th. The 9th is heavily Demo in registration. Both candidates will be well funded. In terms of issues, Gov. Pete Wilson's veto of the pay raise for State employees doesn't sit well with the state workers who are a major force in the 6th SD. Ortiz's campaign pledge: "I won't accept a pay raise until the State Employees get their raise." A *toss up* for now, but sources think state employees could swing the election to Ortiz...

☒ **30th AD Update** - This little blurb is called *The Veto From Hell*. GOP Assemblyman Robert Prenter could just kill Gov. Wilson. Prenter, having been assured that Wilson would sign a bill giving the town of Kerman \$250,000 for a new community center, went to Kerman for a photo-op (commonly called a *grip 'n grin* photo). Lots of local publicity. And then came Wilson's veto. Making matters worse, Prenter was recor-

ded as a **NO** vote on that bill which Wilson vetoed. Screw ups like this really hurt. Prenter's battle with Demo Dean Florez is still a *toss up*...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key U.S. House races in Calif...

☒ **CWF Assisting in 9 Calif. Races** - The *Campaign for Working Families*, chaired by conservative Gary Bauer, is contributing to the campaigns of 9 GOP incumbents and challengers in Calif. The funds include direct contributions and independent expenditures. On the CWF list are incumbents Richard Pombo, James Rogan, Ken Calvert and Dana Rohrabacher. GOP challengers who will get assistance include Cliff Unruh (vs. Cal Dooley), Tom Bordonaro (vs. Lois Capps), Eli Pirozzi (vs. George Brown) and Bob Dornan (vs. Loretta Sanchez). CWP is also assisting Gary Miller for the 41st CD. Miller knocked off incumbent Jay Kim(R) in the primary...

☒ **10th CD** - The CA Demo Party is claiming that Demo U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher's GOP opponent, Charles Bell, *overstated* the amount of his loans and contributions by \$142,898.65. He actually received \$105,381, but reported \$248,612. Newspaper accounts quote Ball as saying it was a staff mistake. He has amended his report, but the CDP isn't buying and filed an official complaint with the FEC on Sept. 4th. FYI: a recent poll by McGuire Research (400 likely voters, Oct. 1-4) for the *Contra Costa Times* shows Tauscher at **36.5%** vs. **19.3%** for Ball, with **34.8%** undecided and the rest for other candidates...

☒ **22nd CD** - Sources tell **Calpeek** that GOP Assemblyman Tom Bordonaro is strapped for cash and isn't doing well on fundraising. Demo U.S. Rep. Lois Capps of Santa Barbara looks solid for reelection. Capps, along with Demo U.S. Reps. Brad Sherman (Sherman Oaks) and Ellen Tauscher (Contra Costa County) all voted YES on the GOP tax cut plan. They were among 19 House Demos who crossed party lines to vote for the GOP tax bill. A very savvy move by this trio. FYI: Capps was recently endorsed for reelection by the *San Luis Obispo Co. Telegram Tribune*. In the special back in March, this paper endorsed Bordo. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Here's an update on Props. #5 and #4...

♦ **Prop. 5** - For many months **Calpeek** has been predicting that both sides in this hotly contested Indian Gaming Initiative battle would spend a combined total of about **\$75 million**. The latest campaign reports indicate spending is approaching \$60 million with 3 weeks to go...

...The only big shocker in the latest report is that Calif. Indian tribes supporting Prop. 5 are outspending the NO side by 2-to-1. Here's how it looks:

	<u>Raised 7/1 to 9/30</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>	<u>COH</u>
YES	\$16.4 million	\$36 million	\$6.7 mil
NO	\$14.5 million	\$17.1 million	-\$1 mil

...The NO side has a new ad which is much more hard edged than their previous efforts, noting that just 2 tribes have contributed close to \$20 million. NO on 5 sources say they tested this new ad in focus groups and "eyes popped." The two tribes are the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, with a combined population of 538 members. The \$19.6 million contributed by these two tribes represents 80% of the YES side's funds...

♦ **Prop. 4** - This is the initiative which deals with trapping practices and bans the use of specified traps and poisons. There's a broad-based opposition committee of 150 members fighting this measure and they have some good arguments. The NO side has already won editorial endorsements from the *San Jose Mercury News* and the *Bakersfield Californian*. But unless the committee can raise some big bucks in a hurry to get their message on radio & tv, this initiative will pass. Total raised so far by the NO side is a paltry **\$312,000**. One of the elements in the initiative would ban protective collars that prevent predators from attacking lambs, calves and other livestock. Sources say that neither the CA Cattlemen nor the CA Wool Growers Assn. have stepped up to the plate with the necessary funding and thus other potential contributors are staying away. Too bad. Stay tuned...

COMMUNICATING WITH CALPEEK WITH E-MAIL.

For those inclined to use it, we do have an E-mail address: **calpeek@aol.com**. We check our E-Mail 4-5 times a week...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***City Gun Law Upheld*** - In case you missed it, the City of West Hollywood's 1995 law banning the sale of Saturday Night Special handguns has been upheld by the 2nd District Court of Appeals. Weho Mayor Steve Martin and Councilman Paul Koretz, both very big Demo activists, did an *in-your-face* news conference on Weho's big court win in front of Dan Lungren's L.A. campaign HQ. As AG, Lungren's DOJ wrote a brief opposing Weho's new law...

■ ***U.S. Senate Update*** - U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer(D) has begun online campaign advertising with banner ads on various websites, including: sfgate.com, fresnobee.com, laweekly.com and seniorlife.com. A website Boxer *won't* be using: newtimesla.com - the website of New Times L.A., where Jill Stewart pens a weekly column. Stewart's Oct. 1-7 column about Boxer was hard hitting. Main headline: **Chief Prostitute**. Subhead: *Calif. voters were already soured by the senator's inability to see beyond Marin County bribe-and-wine politics*. It's a hit and a half on Boxer and if Fong had the bucks, he'd reprint it and mail it to every voter in Calif. The story's key focus is on the Clinton sex scandal - and Boxer's response...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON CITY & COUNTY RACES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on some of the hotter local elections...

● ***Inglewood Mayor's Race*** - Mayor Roosevelt Dorn has been on the job for 16 months and is now facing reelection. He's very popular with everyone except former Mayor Ed Vincent, who recruited Dorn to run when Vincent got elected to the Assembly in 1996. So Vincent is now backing former Assemblyman Curtis Tucker(D) in what insiders say is a *very personal battle* between Vincent and Dorn. Tucker almost disappeared from the political scene after being defeated in '96 by State Sen. Terry Hughes(D-Inglewood). Sources say that just about the entire Demo establishment has lined up with Dorn, with the exception of Vincent and the Inglewood police and firefighters. Tucker is trailing in fundraising and sources say Dorn will be in the mail from now until election day. Advantage Dorn...

● ***Anaheim Mayor's Update*** - In this battle between incumbent Mayor Tom Daly and Anaheim Councilman Bob Zemel, the GOP establishment in Orange County is trying hard to make this into a partisan race --- Daly is a Demo and Zemel is a conservative GOPer. But Daly has countered with a Republicans for Daly letter signed by a number of prominent GOPers, including former Anaheim mayors Ben Bay & Jack Dutton, former Santa Ana mayor Dan Young, and current Anaheim Councilwoman Shirley McCracken...

● ***Prop. C - San Diego Ballpark*** - The latest private polling data made available to Calpeek shows YES at 52%, NO at 37%, with 10% undecided (500 likely voters/Sept. 25). That's the good news for the San Diego Padres and their supporters who want to build a new \$411 million stadium in the downtown area. The bad news: The Clairemont Town Council voted 23-5 against Prop. C on Oct. 2nd. What's so important about Clairemont? It's the single largest area in the city and is a political *bellwether area* for San Diego...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Bonnie Brody, a field deputy to L.A. Councilman Richard Alatorre, died Sept. 26 of heart failure. She was 49. R.I.P...

● Pam Aguilar has been hired by AFSCME as the union's political & legislative field coordinator for CA. She's a past president of AFSCME Local #2700 in Contra Costa County...

● American Data Management has moved to new offices at 312 Brokaw Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95050-4336. New ☎(408)980-7898 or (800)829-5800...

● Demo Consultant Jerry Seedborg has a new ☎(562)938-8172. Seedborg is HQed in Long Beach and produces Voter Guide Slate Mail...

● Attorney & architect Bruce Ehrlich has joined Kosmont & Associates as a Sr. VP...

● John Diaz has been hired as director of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein's L.A. Office...